

# 1812 RED RIVER 1912



LORD SELKIRK'S CENTENNIAL  
WINNIPEG



*The Arrival of  
Selkirk's Settlers*





THE CANADIAN INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION at Winnipeg, in the special features of this its 22nd annual year, is commemorating and expressing the national thanksgiving of the people on the occasion of the centennial of the first settlement of that unpeopled wilderness, which has since become the granary of America and one of the most remarkable members of the great sisterhood of nations that make up the British Empire. The year 1912 is the centenary of Lord Selkirk's settlement on the Red River—the natal day of Western Canada.

Western Canada and the Exhibition are to be honored by the presence of His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, who will pay his first visit to the West as Canada's Governor-General upon this auspicious and historic occasion.

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ON July 6th, 1812, the first pioneer settlers, bound for what is now Western Canada, left York Factory on the shores of Hudson Bay. On August 30th of that year these pioneers, few in number but strong in spirit and great in the significance of the birth of a nation, disembarked at Fort Douglas on the Red River and entered on their tasks of building their homes in the new land.

To one man alone stands the credit of this enterprise and it is with justice that the name of Thomas Douglas, Lord Daer and Earl of Selkirk, has in Western Canada always occupied a place of honor. Gifted with a vision that was far in advance of his time, imbued with an enthusiasm that has, we may say, stamped all of those who have followed his pioneer footsteps in Western Canada, Lord Selkirk overcame great difficulties in the accomplishment of his plan to establish an agricultural colony in the interior of Rupert's Land. One hundred years ago he sent out the first band of settlers to the Red River colony. It is the landing of these people that has been portrayed on the frontispiece of this booklet and the memory of that landing which is to be fittingly commemorated in the Canadian Industrial Exhibition of 1912.

In virtue, the founder not only of Winnipeg, this great city, but of the whole West, the memory of Selkirk is one to mention with fervent thankfulness to every dweller of these parts of the world.





*H. R. H. Duke of Connaught*





*H.R.H. Duchess of Connaught*



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**I**T is indeed auspicious that the celebration of Western Canada's Centennial falls in with the occasion of the first visit of Canada's Royal Governor-General to the western provinces. Last year when His Majesty King George paid the Dominion the great honor of appointing his own uncle, a son of the beloved Queen and the brother of King Edward, as Governor-General of the Dominion, the appointment was received with an acclamation which has become an extended welcome from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

That the first visit to Winnipeg and the West of Their Royal Highnesses is to be the occasion of the Selkirk Centennial celebration and that he has graciously consented to take part with the West in this its hour of memorial and thankfulness, is the most gratifying announcement that has ever fallen to the honor of the Directors of the Canadian Industrial Exhibition Association to make to the people of Winnipeg and Western Canada.











